

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A data coincident method among ~~IC tags attached~~ on elements which connect with other elements located in a nearby area, comprising the steps of:

a first step for determining whether or not a previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence processing has occurred ~~among~~ with respect to one of said elements ~~IC tags~~;

a second step for acquiring ~~with a number of a group of~~ said elements corresponding to said one of said elements if said previously defined event has occurred at the first step;

a third step for ~~said IC tags to transmitting~~ a coincidence request to said group of elements ~~in the air~~ if said previously defined event has occurred at the first step;

~~a fourth step for another element to transmit a coincidence request in the air;~~

a ~~fourth~~ fifth step for said ~~IC tags~~ elements to transmit a common data ~~to which said coincidence request has been made, responding~~ in response to said coincidence request at the third step ~~or fourth step~~;

a ~~fifth~~^{sixth} step for determining whether or not said common data must be updated; and

a ~~sixth~~^{seventh} step for updating said common data using ~~a data held among a majority of said elements and returning to said first step~~^{owned among IC tags in the majority, and return to first step}.

whereby if all of the data are not coincident, coincidence processing is repeated until all of the data is coincident.

29. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim ~~2228~~, wherein said majority is ~~replaced with~~^{determined to be data obtained} a largest number of times ~~to be acquired~~ at the second step.

30. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim ~~2228~~, wherein said previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence processing is at least one of an entry/ or withdrawal of said one of said elements ~~or to access to said common data held by said IC tags.~~

31. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim ~~2228~~, wherein an acquisition of said ~~number~~^{group} of said elements in the second step, is made by using a survival signal which each ~~element~~^{IC tags} periodically transmits through a transmission means attached to each element.

32. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim ~~22~~28, wherein said common data in the ~~fourth~~fifth step is at least one of an element's price or an element's effective term held in ~~said~~an integrated circuit (IC) tag attached on ~~said~~each element.

33. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim ~~22~~28,
further comprising after ~~fourth~~fifth step:
a ~~seventh~~eight step for said ~~IC tag~~elements to receive said common data;
wherein only data obtained at the ~~seventh~~eight step are used in a
determination at ~~fifth~~sixth step.

34. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein said previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence processing is an access to said common data.

35. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein each element has an integrated circuit (IC) tag attached and said common data is held by the IC Tag of each element.